

Message Text

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UNCLAS BRUSSELS 08023

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OEXC (VERLEYEN,FRANS)

SUBJECT: FY 76 INTERVISITOR PROGRAM

REF: BRUSSELS A-139,STATE 112412

1. AS EDITOR-IN-CHIEF OF MAJOR DUTCH-LANGUAGE NEWS MAGAZINE KNACK, VERLEYEN HAS VARIETY OF INTERESTS HE WISHES TO EXPLORE DURING HIS VISIT TO US. FOLLOWING SUMMARY CULLED FROM RECENT DISCUSSION WITH EMOFF:

1) INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS: WISHES DISCUSS US VIEWS OF EUROPEAN POLITICS WITH DEPARTMENT OFFICIALS AND PROMINENT ACADEMICS.HE PARTICULARLY INTERESTED IN AMERICAN APPROACH TO THE STUDY OF EUROPEAN AFFAIRS. WOULD WELCOME OPPORTUNITY DISCUSS WORLD MILITARY POSTURE WITH PENTAGON OFFICIAL.

2) US POLITICAL SYSTEM: DESIRES BRIEFING ON SYSTEM OF CHECKS AND BALANCES AND HOW POWER IS SHARED AT FEDERAL LEVEL OF GOVERNMENT WITH MEMBER WHITE HOUSE STAFF,CONGRASSMAN,OR REPRESENTATIVE BROOKINGS INSTITUTION.

3) US SOCIETY: DESIRES BRIEFING ON SOCIAL SECURITY AND HEALTH CARE SYSTEM; MEET WITH CITY OFFICIALS FOR DISCUSSION OF URBAN AFFAIRS: VISIT TO SOCIAL WELFARE CENTER TO DISCUSS WORKINGS OF PROGRAMS TO HELP THE POOR; MEET WITH MEMBERS OF THE BLACK COMMUNITY. WELCOMES HOME HOSPITALITY ENROUTE INCLUDING STAY IN SMALL TOWN.

4) US PRESS: WOULD LIKE TO VISIT LARGE NEWSPAPER (BUT NOT NYTIMES OR WASHINGTON POST) AND DISCUSS THE WAY US PRESS IS ORGANIZED AND FUNCTIONS ON AMERICAN SOCIETY.

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2. IN ADDITION ABOVE, VERLEYEN DESIRES WIDEST POSSIBLE EXPOSURE TO AMERICANS IN ALL WALKS TO LIFE WITH WHOM HE WISHES DISCUSS "PHILOSOPHY AND DIRECTION OF AMERICAN LIFE." IN COURSE OF TRAVEL, VERLEYEN HOPES IT WOULD BE POSSIBLE TO MEET WRITERS, FILM MAKERS, MUSICIANS, BUSINESSMEN, EDUCATORS, AND RELIGIOUS LEADERS. TIME PERMITTING HE WOULD LIKE TO VISIT A NATIONAL PARK AND DISCUSS US APPROACH TO CONSERVATION OF WILDLIFE AND NATURAL RESOURCES.

3. VERLEYEN SPEAKS FAIR ENGLISH BUT WOULD LIKE ESCORT-INTERPRETER.
RENNER

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